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NEWSLETTER

NBC GIVEN 2ND ANNUAL "INQUISITIONAL BIGOT OF THE YEAR" AWARD ON OCT. 31ST

Herman Slater appeared on the TODAY SHOW, Samhain, surrounded by various Craft paraphernalia, interviewed by NBC film-critic Gene Shalit, who took a bantering tone until Mr. Slater presented him with the Award and then read it on the air:

* THE WITCHES ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE, THE WITCHES LIBERATION MOVE- *
* MENT, and the FRIENDS OF THE CRAFT Do Hereby Present NBC with the *
* 1973 *
* Inquisitional Bigot Of The Year Award *
* in recogni- *
* tion of their gross misrepresentation of the valid religion of *
* Wicca, a peace-loving nature-oriented celebration of life..on the *
* October 14th episode of "McMILLAN & WIFE" entitled "The Devil *
* You Say," written by Steve Fisher and produced by Paul Mason for *
* Universal Studios, in which portions of our sacred rites and *
* our traditional greeting of "Blessed Be" were attached to the hor- *
* rendous filth of devil worship and ritual murder, and a disgusting *
* display of degeneracy having nothing whatsoever to do with our re- *
* ligion. *
* CONGRATULATIONS! Given on this day Samhain (Halloween) *
* October 31st, of 1973 Common Era.....SO BE IT. *
* *****

Mr. Slater just barely got the last word in before the station-brea The Producer Mr. Gotlieb physically threw him out of the studio and grabbed the wrong bag and didn't have his Identification papers. took cab to LaGuardia airport, and his bank teller identified him t the ticket agent. He did the "PANORAMA" Metromedia-TV show in Wasl ington, D.C. guest-hosted by Gore Vidal, author of new book "BURR." Mr. Vidal was most cordial and publicly stated that he, too, was a Pagan and sided with Mr. Slater against another guest who wrote o of those old grimoire-rehash books on "sorcery." When Slater got back to New York he found the New York Post had very inaccurate story about him. As he says "I freaked out. You've heard of the Pope of t Witches, King of the Witches, Queen of the Witches and Official Witcl of L.A. Say 'hello' to the new "Chief Witch Of Brooklyn!" After re- signing myself to the new status I met Dr. Martello for a Chinese di and then to the WOR-RKO General Barry Farber Farber radio show. IW didn't know that the program before his had on Sara Morrison (Moder Witches' Spell Book) who said "All Witches worsship the Devil!" Mr. Farber's hero is Owen Rachleff who refused to appear with us. I off. \$100 to Farber's favorite charity in a challenge to him to get Rach to debate real Initiated Witches instead of the usual pop-brainles females that hhe-media seems to favor since theyre so easy to put

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BARRY FARBER used his usual method of trying to sidetrack the issues into minor irrelevancies, especially the attempt to get Slater or Martello to discuss their "powers." Martello said "The Craft enables me to live my life my own way and to achieve whatever goals I set for myself, once I've decided that they're rational." Farber said: "That could be said by the followers of any other religion." Martello replied: "That's precisely my point. Witchcraft is a religion just like any other. Our techniques happen to work for us." We issued public challenge to Owen Rachleff on the air (winner of the 1972 "Bigot Award.") to debate Craft issues.

MIDDAY LIVE TV show: Had on Satanists, Pop Witches & Owen Rachleff. Producer Noble nearly had a fit at mention of my name. He once produced the Allen Burke TV show on which Martello appeared 4 times.....TOMORROW, TV show after Johnny Carson featured Ray Buckland and a Los Angeles Witch & her Coven, Barbetta. Also Solomon Weir of Louisville, Ky. Satanic grove. This show was tastefully handled and Tom Snyder was a courteous host. They flew Buckland to Los Angeles from his new home in New Hampshire....CBS-NEWS, 7 A.M. (10/31/73) was supposed to have on a local High Priestess. At the last minute she called up saying she couldn't make it. Ms. Quinn said "This was supposed to be the spot for the Witches but at the last minute we got a call saying they wouldn't appear because of Satanic vibrations!" For those of you who wonder why more female Witches don't appear on the media I can tell you that this particular "High Priestess" permitted her own unstable, immature and unprofessional personal life to interfere with a commitment casting a doubt on the integrity and stability of all Witches. Valuable airtime was lost. Nor did she inform Herman Slater (who got her the interview) about her last-minute cop-out. He or Martello or some other local initiated Witch could have gone on. This is inexcusable and unforgivable. If CBS never calls Mr. Slater again we will all know the reason why. It's the old saying: "I can take care of my enemies. Just preserve me from my friends!"

AQUARIAN ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE given publicity in Witches Trine, Green Egg & Gnostica News with requests for donations in a proposed legal fight. I wrote to Isaac Bonewits asking for more information months ago. I NEVER GOT A REPLY. In the GE#58 issue there's his "Aquarian Manifesto" As many of you have written it sounds like a "Martello rip-off." Ideas, writing style, even some of the same words. (My "Witches' Manifesto" first pub. in my WEIRDWAYS OF WITCHCRAFT, 1969). This latest "Manifesto" is "endorsed" by Tim Zell and Carolyn Clark, Church of All Worlds. Was set-up supposedly to help West Coast Witches in a planned suit against a company that filmed them and betrayed their original promises. If my information is incomplete cast the blame where it belongs: On Isaac Bonewits, Aidan Kelly and all the other West Coast Witches who've kept very "mum" about this. The request for money doesn't go down well without more tangible evidence as to intentions, people behind this, and assurances that if the proposed case is dropped that all monies will be returned, or at least accounted for. And if they haven't been successful in obtaining funds that's not surprising either. As to Isaac Bonewits, his book REAL MAGIC is very good in certain places, but his views on Witches (as stated on pg. 133) that he finds no fundamental differences between "White Witches" and "BLACK Witches" or "SATANISTS" that both "sides practice methods that are supposed to be done by the opposition." and that both are "anti-life" and his definition of "Witch Cult of Western Europe" as "The nonexistent pan-European 'religion of Witchcraft,' fostered and foisted by many modern 'White Witches.'" indicates 1) He's no true friend of Witches, 2) How can he set up the Aquarian Anti-Defamation League supposedly involving "Witches" in view of above remarks? and 3) All of European Witchcraft was NOT covered by Margaret Murray's researches, and they certainly did not cover the *vecchia religione* of Italy. Some people have lots of explaining to do.

ISAAC BONEWITS WRITES: A week after I wrote the preceding Isaac Bonewits wrote to me, over 3 months after my request for more details on his AADL. Proposed legal action was to be against anti-occult film called "The Occult -- An Echo From Darkness" in which Witches, Pagans etc. were lumped together with a baby-burning Satanist! Two of the original people dropped out after the attorney did several hundred dollars worth of research. To get an injunction against this film will cost at least \$1000.

"It is not my intention to compete or absorb the Witches' Anti-Defamation League -- on the contrary, I wish there were quite a few more organizations of that sort. Our files are always open to you, should you be in of any data for legal purposes." Mr. Bonewits continues: "I have read your latest book and my reaction is BRAVO! You are the only other really militant occultist and Witch I know, and although I may disagree with some of your history and folklore from my super-academic headspace, nonetheless I strongly agree with your fighting spirit."

"I would be honored if you and your organization would cooperate with the AADL by notifying us immediately of outrages perpetrated by the New Witchburners and / or the mass media," Mr. Bonewits continues, "so that we can quickly notify our various friends and supporters to assist you in your efforts....I am in the process of compiling a book on the New Witchburners to be called 'Up Against The Wall Witchburners'. At present I am planning chapters on Owen Rachleff, Billy Graham, Morris Cerrullo, Hershey Smith, Hal Lindsey and the Mass Media. If you can think of other juicy targets, let me know."

ACTIVITY REPORT OF AADL OF CALIF: Too extensive to quote here. Point 10: "About money. I really don't want people outside of Calif. to send me any more cash. I would rather you use that money to start up your own State AADL. That way you don't have to worry about whether or not you can trust Isaac Bonewits. The question will be -- do you trust you??"

LAWSUIT FALLEN THROUGH since the couple who had best defamation suit dropped out because they didn't want the lawyer "stealing one-third of the settlement as his contingency fee." So, the AADL exists now as an idea (a good one) and a future possibility. Point 12: "Each state group should try to register with their State Gov't as a 'nonprofit social service organization' or whatever your lawyer recommends. State registration gives you a lot more muscle in court and with the media." True. But...there are actions all of you can take which don't require attorneys or money (Witness our class-action civil rights Witch-On Victory, 1970; "Bigot of Year Awards", Protest letters to Media; Demonstrations etc. etc. The AADL of CALIF, % Isaac Bonewits, P. O. Box 9398; Berkeley, Calif. 94709. Mr. Bonewits is a professional writer (like myself) and cannot engage in personal correspondence but welcomes ideas, suggestions. He will send Activity Reports to the media so that Pagans-Aquarians can read there.

THE WITCHCRAFT REPORT, Hans Holzer, Ace Books, N. Y. 1973...\$1.41 copy Holzer's interviews with various Witches-Pagans subdivided into East, North, South and West. A Grimoire of Gossip. In some ways appears that he's playing both ends against the middle, uses "selective quotes": e.g. Mentions that I hadn't read the Frost book when I first blasted it but did NOT include what I did write after I HAD! Editing bad, like my returning to "North America" *living with Berbers in Atlas Mountains." That was NORTH AFRICA!!! Says that "Ed Sitch..works in logistics at Vandenberg Air Force Base near San Bernardino, Calif..writes under several names, something that upsets Leo Martello. Mr. Fitch or Sitch or Stitch..I don't know about his being an authority on anything but his own version of the Craft, but then I only have Tom Zell's word for it." Holzer's use of "upset" is a poor choice of words. "Contemptuous" would be correct! Despite flaws book is recommended, lists many addresses, a good handbook.

SHARING THE MAIL

Dear Dr. Martello:

I received your book WITCHCRAFT: THE OLD RELIGION and read it with much interest. The writing is lucid, persuasive and personal. It is refreshing to read a book by a non-specialist with so many references to Egyptian religion and find not one single mistake, a testimony to your conscientious scholarship.***You have certainly accomplished your goal of writing an effective book to counter Witches' Bible. We will be happy to recommend your bk. to all our friends.

HAROLD MOSS

CHURCH OF ETERNAL SOURCE, P. O. Box 7091
Burbank, Calif. 91510

Dear Leo:

Just a note to let you know that our copies of WITCHCRAFT: THE OLD RELIGION came and we found the book to be an interesting and fresh approach to the subject. It makes for good reading and we know it will have a wide appeal. The results have certainly justified the enormous amount of time and effort which you spent in researching the material in the book. B. B.

THEOS & PHOENIX

CRB Research, P. O. Box 56, Commack, N.Y.

11725

Dear DR. Martello:

Your book is very good. I was surprised to read about the "Bene andanti" of Friuli, since I come from this part of Italy. My mother used to tell me about the "strege" and the "good spirits" of the land. Friulian language & folklore is very rich and you will find many references to "strege" in the folktales there.

You did a fine job Dr. Martello. Our Pagan Gods are not forgotten anymore thanks to people like you. I've just sent for my 2nd lesson in your OCCULT CRAFTS course. I'm preparing the "tools" as per your Lesson #1.

VICTOR DE CECCO

281 Belanger St.E; Montreal, Que. CANADA

Dear Dr, Martello:

Your book is one of the best I have ever read on the Craft. I recommend it highly to anyone interested in the Craft. It is a MUST for the student.

MICHAEL JOHNSON

1707-D Valley Pk. W.AUGUSTA, GA. 30904

CONGRATULATIONS. A GREAT BOOK! Ishtar, Canvir, Delphions...P.O.BOX 48,Rt.62,LANDER,WYO.82520

Dear Doc:

Enjoyed, learned and praise your WITCHCRAFT: THE OLD RELIGION. After reading nearly every book I could get on or about the Craft for over 2 years now, I thought that I knew most of the items that a non-initiate would ever know. This I find is not true. When books are published by authors who are Crafters, there is much to learn and I thank you for writing this book/

DANIEL R. MICHALOWSKI

2222 St. Paul St; ROCHESTER, N.Y.
14621

Dear Dr.Martello:

Finished your fine book and enjoyed every page. I am up to my neck in work and finishing another novel (First one A FRAGILE BARK was pub. in 1971 by Simon & Schuster.)

You have given me inspiration to do some work on PRIOR PAGAN CHURCH OF ROME. Have found many BORROWINGS & OUTRIGHT LIFTINGS of prior religion to suit their purpose as regards BELIEFS, LAWS, FORMS OF WORSHIP.

JOE BENANTE

37-16 83rd St;JACKSON HEIGHTS,N.Y.

Dear Dr. Martello:

Your book WITCHCRAFT: THE OLD RELIGION has enlightened me as to the nature of Witchcraft.....I am one of those Judeo-Christians to whom you often refer, I'm Roman Catholic. I agree with your concept of religious freedom but in sincerity I cannot accept your "way." Nor can I condemn you for following your conscience and convictions. Would there be more people like you. Though religiously diametrically opposed, we see many things in the same light, particularly the hypocrisy of many "Christian" religionists. The Karma or Golden Rule applies to all of us, and the Creator, however we may call Him, will shower blessings on all who live this rule...Keep up your fight for openness and religious freedom. May others take up the fight & achieve understanding.

ARNEST A. PRINCE

Phoenix, Ariz. 85009